

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

| | | | |
|---|---|--|----------------------|
| (1) DEPARTMENT Social Services | (2) MEETING DATE 6/19/2012 | (3) CONTACT/PHONE Trish Avery Caldwell (805) 781-1831 | |
| (4) SUBJECT Request to approve a renewal service contract (Clerk's File) for Services Affirming Family Empowerment (SAFE) Family Advocates with Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc. (CAPSLO) in the amount of \$65,340 for Fiscal Year 2012-2013. | | | |
| (5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that your Board approve, and direct the Chairperson to sign, the renewal service contract with Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc. (CAPSLO), for Services Affirming Family Empowerment (SAFE) Family Advocates for the amount of \$65,340 for Fiscal Year 2012-2013. | | | |
| (6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) PSSF Grant Funds/Fed | (7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$65,340.00 | (8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$65,340.00 | (9) BUDGETED? Yes |
| (10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. _____) | | | |
| (11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A | | (12) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5th's Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A | |
| (13) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) 19001146 | | (14) W-9 <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | |
| (15) LOCATION MAP N/A | (16) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No | (17) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input type="checkbox"/> N/A Date <u>Jan 17, 2012</u> Approval _____ | |
| (18) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Emily Jackson | | | |
| (19) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts - | | | |

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Social Services/Trish Avery Caldwell
(805) 781-1831

DATE: 6/19/2012

SUBJECT: Request to approve a renewal service contract (Clerk's File) for Services Affirming Family Empowerment (SAFE) Family Advocates with Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc. (CAPSLO) in the amount of \$65,340 for Fiscal Year 2012-2013.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that your Board approve, and direct the Chairperson to sign, the renewal service contract with Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc. (CAPSLO), for Services Affirming Family Empowerment (SAFE) Family Advocates for the amount of \$65,340 for Fiscal Year 2012-2013.

DISCUSSION

In a collaborative effort among the Departments of Social Services, Behavioral Health, Public Health and Probation, the SAFE System of Care (SOC) was established in 1992 as an initiative of the Children's Services Network (CSN). The mission of the SAFE SOC is working together in partnership with children and families to enhance independence, safety, and health at home, in school and in the community. Currently the SAFE SOC is operating in three (3) school districts: Paso Robles Joint Unified School District (PRJUSD), Atascadero Unified School District (AUSD) and Lucia Mar Unified School District (LMUSD). Each operation is unique, but all provide services consistent with the mission and values of SAFE. This contract is for services in the LMUSD area.

The SAFE SOC builds upon the concept of a three-tiered multi-agency integrated service delivery model that has been developed in the majority of counties throughout California. Services focus on incorporating community prevention activities, intervention and referral services, and intensive treatment services. The SAFE Community-Based Team (CBT) and the Intensive Services Team (IST) interact with local community-based organizations and services to support local prevention efforts at the grassroots level.

The Community-Based Team (CBT) is made up of *prevention* and *intervention* service providers such as CalWORKs, Medi-Cal and CalFresh (i.e., food assistance) workers, employment specialists, family counselors, parent educators and family advocates. If a child or family needs to be linked to a

community resource, transportation, translation, assessment, or needs help with life management skills, a referral is made to the CBT. The team also provides extensive Information and Referral services, which often divert a family from any further involvement with “the system” of human services agencies.

The Intensive Services Team (IST) is made up of social workers, Drug & Alcohol and Mental Health therapists, Probation officers and other treatment-level practitioners. If a child or family has immediate and/or severe problems or is involved with two or more service agencies a referral is made to the IST. The IST provides services to support the family and avoid out of home placement for children and youth (whether foster care, group home placement, hospitalization for mental illness or incarceration at the Juvenile Services Center).

The Management Support Team (MST), consisting of mid-level managers from the participating agencies, has been established to remove barriers and facilitate the functioning of SAFE SOC staff teams by meeting monthly. The Committee developed the concept of a Site Coordinator which is utilized in the South Region to assist in operation of the SAFE SOC and the daily supervision of on-site staff. In addition, they have a Systems Coordinator that works with all of the school districts, agencies and community-based organizations in the region to provide SAFE SOC education and outreach and to insure the smooth operation of SAFE SOC referrals and services, functions that benefit all of the SAFE SOC partners and communities.

There are many benefits to families served by the SAFE SOC. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Services based in their community and linked to the schools make access much easier and “user friendly” for families, who can receive multiple services and levels of service in one location.
- Services that are multi-disciplinary and case managed mean that family service plans are consolidated and simplified. Family members don’t have to cover the same ground with different providers.
- There is less travel for both families and agency staff, which is a direct benefit to the individuals involved, the community and the environment through reductions in traffic, fuel emissions and consumption, and increases in saved time and efficiency.
- Any agency or group that serves families and youth is aware of the program and makes referrals to the local SAFE SOC site in their area.

CAPSLO, a private nonprofit, began providing services in San Luis Obispo County in 1965 and offers many services for low-income individuals and families. Services include childcare, homeless case management, shelter and food, home energy services, adult day care for the elderly or disabled, emergency intervention services, and many other services focused on eliminating the causes of poverty. Services provided by the Family Advocates at the SAFE SOC location(s) improve the quality of life for young parents and families and support the CAPSLO mission and vision of helping families achieve self-sufficiency through community-based programs. For more information about CAPSLO services visit their website at www.capslo.org.

CAPSLO has been a primary partner in the South County SAFE SOC since 1992 and continues to collaborate with partners like LMUSD and County Departments including Social Services, Mental Health, Public Health and Probation. In addition, this year CAPSLO will be partnering with the San Luis Obispo Child Development Center (SLOCDC), a local non-profit community program that provides therapeutic interventions for children and families (www.slocdc.org). A major source of funding for SAFE SOC services in the South County comes from the Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) funds which CSN oversees. Funding is generally approved in 3-year blocks and this year required an RFP before renewing any service contracts. The RFP required all applicants to align services with the County System Improvement Plan (SIP) process. The County SIP identified three (3) family-based strategies that the Departments of Social Services and Probation will work to improve: 1) no recurrence of maltreatment, 2) placement stability, and 3) reunification within 12 months for children removed from a home.

To align with the County SIP strategies and the Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) goals of providing services that promote healthy marriages and strengthen parenting skills to reduce child abuse and neglect, the performance outcomes for the contract have changed. The performance outcomes for FY 2012-2013 fall under four components: 1) Family Preservation, 2) Family Support Services, 3) Adoption Promotion and Support Services, and 4) Time-Limited Family Reunification Services. Family Preservation refers to services that help families at risk or in crisis by providing assistance that aid in reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship. Specifically, services may be designed to improve parenting skills, assist with family budgeting, coping with stress, and understanding age appropriate health and nutritional needs of children. Family Support Services refers to the use of community-based services to promote the safety and well-being of families and children.

The third component, Adoption Promotion and Support Services, is intended to provide services and activities designed to ensure permanency for children through family reunification, adoption, or by another permanent living arrangement. Activities may include pre- and post-adoption services, or activities designed to expedite the adoption process and support adoptive families. The final component is the Time-Limited Family Reunification Services which include services for a child that is removed from their home and placed in a foster family home or institution and a reunification plan is in place to return the child to his/her family or origin within a 15-month period. Services and activities may include counseling, substance abuse treatment, assistance with addressing domestic violence, therapeutic services and/or transportation to or from plan activities.

Approval of this contract will allow CAPSLO to employ Family Advocates that work directly with referred children and families in the South County region. Referrals come from teachers, school nurses, principals, counselors, and school staff who have direct contact with children and families. Families can also self refer. The Family Advocates work with several thousand families each year (See the Results section of this letter.) and provide services that help strengthen each family based on their unique needs. These services support the Department and County goal of ensuring all people in our community enjoy healthy, successful and productive lives, and have access to the basic necessities.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

This contract was developed in partnership with CSN, OCAP and CAPSLO. County Counsel has reviewed and approved the contract as to legal form and effect.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

This contract is 100% funded with Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) federal dollars. PSSF funding is allocated to the county annually by the OCAP based on a 3-year plan. CAPSLO was selected through the RFP process to receive funding for a three (3) year period starting in FY 2011-2012.

Based on funds available through the RFP, in FY 2012-2013 the total contract amount for CAPSLO SAFE Family Advocates is \$65,340. The contract is included in the Department of Social Services adopted budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 and will require no additional General Fund contribution.

| Agency | Actual FY 11-12 | Budget FY 12-13 | Notes | Sharing Ratios | | | |
|--------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------|-------|----|-------|
| | | | | Fed | State | Co | Other |
| CAPSLO | \$ 69,812 | \$ 65,340 | SAFE (PSSF funds) | 100% | 0% | 0% | |

RESULTS

Lucia Mar Unified School District Services Affirming Family Empowerment (SAFE) Advocacy Services

The SAFE contract is funded with Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) funds. Based on the 2011 RFP, performance outcomes changed in both FY 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 to align with the County System Improvement Plan (SIP) outcomes.

SAFE is a community-based, school-linked program designed to bring services to children and families on three (3) levels: prevention, community-based and intensive. The goal is to focus on family strengths and work with families to keep children safe, healthy, at home, in school, and out of trouble.

Fiscal Year 11-12

CAPSLO family advocates met their performance outcome and provided thirty (30) families with one-on-one education and support services.

CAPSLO family advocates met their performance outcome and coordinated a minimum of 6-10 week parenting classes with at least one series being specific to foster and adoptive parents.

CAPSLO family advocates met their performance outcome and conducted a minimum of twelve (12) informational presentations to professionals and community members serving foster and adoptive children. *Presentations were given to the following agencies: SLO County Office of Education, Drug*

and Alcohol Services, Lucia Mar Unified School District [(3) General, Nurses, Psychologists], Atascadero Community Link, Youth Probation Officers, Mental Health Therapists, California State Preschool Staff, Parenting Class Facilitators, Aspiranet Foster Agency Social Workers.

Fiscal Year 12-13

CAPSLO SAFE Family Advocates will provide thirty (30) families with one-on-one education and support services on budgeting, child development, positive parenting, stress reduction, and child health, nutrition, and well-being; eighty-five percent (85%) of families will show improved functioning as demonstrated by gains on their Family Development Matrix (FDM) assessments. [Family Support and Family Preservation activities]

CAPSLO SAFE Family Advocates will coordinate a minimum of 6-10 week parenting classes to promote healthy marriages, strengthen parent-child relationships, increase knowledge of child development, and increase awareness of attachment issues; 85% of families will report less stress in the home and an increased knowledge of parenting and relationship skills, and seventy-five percent (75%) will successfully avoid separation from their children. At least one series will be specific to foster and adoptive parents. [Family Support activity]

CAPSLO SAFE Family Advocates will collaborate with at least three (3) foster family agencies to identify and provide services to adoptive and foster families who would benefit from parenting classes. [Family Preservation activity]

CAPSLO SAFE Family Advocates will conduct a minimum of twelve (12) outreach and training presentations to adoption social workers, youth probation officers, community-based providers, educators, and others on supportive and SAFE services available to foster care and adoptive families and their children. [Adoption Promotion and Time-Limited Reunification activities]

CAPSLO SAFE Family Advocates will screen, refer, and assist with scheduling for at least twenty-five (25) individuals/families for therapy at community mental health services for adopted and foster care individuals or families. [Adoption Promotion and Time-Limited Reunification activities]

ATTACHMENTS

1. Clerk's File